

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claims:

Subcl 7
-139. The apparatus of claim 91, in combination with a bone growth promoting material.

140. The apparatus of claim 139, wherein said bone growth promoting material includes at least one of bone morphogenetic protein, mineralizing proteins, hydroxyapatite, and genetic material coding for the production of bone.

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141. The apparatus of claim 130, in combination with a bone growth promoting material.

142. The apparatus of claim 141, wherein said bone growth promoting material includes at least one of bone morphogenetic protein, mineralizing proteins, hydroxyapatite, and genetic material coding for the production of bone.

143. The method of claim 133, further comprising the step of coating the screw with at least one of bone morphogenetic protein, mineralizing proteins, hydroxyapatite, and genetic material coding for the production of bone.—

REMARKS

Applicant added new claims 139-143 to further define Applicant's claimed invention. Support for new claims 139-143 is found, for example, on page 26, lines 6-10 of the specification. Applicant also amended the specification to provide antecedent basis for the subject matter of originally filed claim 128.

Entry and consideration of this Amendment prior to the examination of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.